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For Immediate Release

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### Shipping Australia recognises IMO Day of the Seafarer

Today is the International Day of the Seafarer recognising the contribution that the humble seafarer makes to our everyday lives. This year's theme is **Faces of the Sea**, which reminds us of the people, our seafarers who are required to carry out their duties in a constantly changing, challenging and often dangerous environment in order that the lifeblood of our economy, international trade, continues to flow. The IMO has put out a call through social networks to collect images of seafarers going about their daily activities to highlight their contribution. The link to the International Maritime Organization's webpage is: <http://www.imo.org/MediaCentre/PressBriefings/Pages/22-DOTS.aspx>

While recognising that the seafarer is important, doing something to contribute to their ongoing welfare is even more so. To address this aspect, the Australian Maritime Safety Authority, on behalf of the AMSA Seafarers' Welfare Advisory Committee is hosting a Seafarers' Welfare Forum in Sydney on 15 August. This forum is aimed at shipowners, managers, those involved in delivering welfare services to seafarers and those representing seafarer's interests.

For information, please visit [http://www.amsa.gov.au/seafarers\\_welfare/meetings.html](http://www.amsa.gov.au/seafarers_welfare/meetings.html)

Shipping Australia recognises that the shipping industry depends on the seafarers that crew ships internationally and domestically. The welfare of those seafarers is a critical factor in reaching safe outcomes and an efficient shipping industry.

#### Editor's note:

For additional information please contact Rod Nairn, Acting Chief Executive Officer on 0449 902 457.

*Shipping Australia is a peak national shipping association comprising 35 member shipping lines and shipping agents that would be involved with over 70% of Australia's container and car trade, over 60% of our break bulk and bulk trades and significant cruise ship and tug operations.*